un keep of the Tamil Nadu part of the Kanyakumari-Trivandrum National Highway (NH-47) which is in bad condition;

(b) whether the NH-47 would be widened; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) Strengthening of weak two lane pavement from Km. 611/0 to Km. 625/0 and reconstruction of major bridge at Km. 604/4 across river Kuzhithurai on NH-47 in Kanyakumari-Trivandrum Section has been included in the Annual Plan 1997-98.

(b) and (c) No such proposal is under consideration at present.

Discipline in Armed Forces

2002. SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have conducted a study on state of discipline in the armed forces of the country;

(b) if so, the details and outcome thereof; and

(c) the steps taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) to (c) Government have not conducted any such study. The Armed Forces have adequate internal mechanisms for keeping a continuous close watch on the state of discipline and taking necessary corrective steps considered necessary.

[Translation]

Education in Foreign Countries

2003. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of students sent abroad for education during the last two years; and

(b) the number of students getting education abroad, country-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) and (b) A large number of students go abroad for study on their own. They approach directly the educational institutions in the foreign countries for admission, and foreign missions concerned for visas. Therefore, reliable information on Indian students studying abroad is not available.

Some foreign countries offer scholarships for Indian students in their educational institutions. Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Education) is associated with the selection. Information regarding Department of Education is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

Number of students sent abroad for higher education to different countries by the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Education).

Country	1995-96	1996-97
1. United Kingdom	35	34
2. Canada	01	02
3. Newzealand	01	—
4. China	14	11
5. Japan	13	15
6. Israel	—	02
7. Mexico	—	01
8. France	02	02
9. Germany	16	10
10. Italy	02	04
11. Ireland	07	05
12. Korea (South)	02	01
13. Poland	01	—
14. Belgium	—	01
15. Australia	21	16
	115	104

[English]

Bridges/N.Hs in Assam

2004. SHRI KESHAB MAHANTA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the bridges and National Highways constructed in Assam during the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) whether the work undertaken on these bridges and National Highways is behind the the scheduled time;

(c) if so, the reasons for the delay; and

(d) the corrective measures taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) 26 Bridges and 52 Roads Works with a total sanctioned cost of Rs. 39.95 crores were constructed/completed during the 8th Five Year Plan.

(b) to (d) Due to financial problems of Government of Assam and disturbed conditions in parts of the State, there has been delay in completion of Bridge